FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

17 FEBRUARY 1984

Lebanon

Saudi Peace Plan — President Amin al-Jumayyil has approved an eight-point Saudi peace plan, "informed sources" cited by Beirut radio confirmed. The plan includes abrogation of the 17 May agreement with Israel, a cease-fire among all parties, a gradual and simultaneous withdrawal of Israeli and Syrian forces within a specified period, deployment of a UN force to replace the Multinational Force, security guarantees for Israel's northern border, resumption of the Geneva negotiations on national reconciliation, and Al-Jumayyil's approval of talks on basic reforms to bring about a just distribution of power, Beirut radio reported. Saudi sources cited by the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon said that Al-Jumayyil stipulated "specific guarantees" as a condition for abrogating the 17 May agreement, but these guarantees have not been disclosed.

Phalange Party leader Pierre al-Jumayyil announced that his party will approve the plan provided the other sides involved endorse "all" of the plan's provisions, Radio Free Lebanon reported. Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) leader Walid Junblatt, in remarks cited by the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio, called the plan "too little too late." He ruled out any solution with the "shah of B'abda." According to Beirut radio, Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal is expected to go to Damascus to discuss the plan with Syrian officials. However, information available to Radio Free Lebanon indicates that the plan "is being rejected by Syria and its allies." The United States announced that abrogation of the 17 May agreement by Lebanon will not affect U.S. support for the Lebanese regime and its policies, Beirut radio reported, since the United States "is not a party to" the agreement.

Israeli Reaction — Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, in remarks to be broadcast on Israeli television's Arabic-language program, warned that should the Lebanese Government unilaterally abrogate the 17 May accord, Israel "itself will take care of the security" of its northern border, IDF Radio reported. Shamir also warned that Israel will not tolerate any attempt to reestablish a "terrorist base of operations" in Lebanon, Jerusalem radio said.

Other Developments — The imam of Al-Hallusiyah, Shaykh Raghib Harb, was assassinated on 16 February, according to a "security source" cited by Beirut radio. Meanwhile, the Al-Biqa' governor was expelled at the request of the citizens of Zahlah, Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon announced.

Military Situation — An Israeli force crossed the Al-Awwali bridge and reached the outskirts of Ad-Damur, Beirut Voice of Lebanon reported. In Beirut itself, shells from Junblatt's forces reached the perimeters of the Republican Palace and the U.S. ambassador's residence, Radio Free Lebanon announced. The Soviet Union began evacuating a large number of its diplomats and their families from the embassy in West Beirut to Damascus through the southern suburb, according to Radio Free Lebanon.

Iran-Iraq War

Continuing their "crushing" attacks in the Val-Fajr V operational theater, Iranian forces "completely" captured specified heights and objectives in the Chenguleh region west of the area between Dehloran and Mehran, Tehran radio reported. Areas behind these heights have also come under the surveillance and "domination" of the Iranian forces, the radio added. During this phase of the operation, the 4th Brigade of the Iraqi border guards was destroyed and military documents and maps were seized from its headquarters, according to IRNA. More than 1,200 Iraqi forces have been killed or wounded in the operational zone, Tehran radio announced.

Meanwhile, four counterattacks by Iraqi forces to retake areas successfully "liberated" were repelled and the Iraqi troops were forced to retreat with "heavy" casualties and losses, IRNA reported. According to Baghdad Voice of the Masses Radio, it was the Iranians who sustained "heavy" losses in men and equipment during their "abortive" attempt to cross the Iraqi border.

An Iraqi military spokesman, in a statement to INA, "strongly denied" that any Iraqi planes were shot down as reported by Tehran radio. Information Minister Latif Nusayyif, in a statement carried on Baghdad radio, denied Iranian claims by Iran that Iraq had continued to shell Abadan and Khorramshahr despite the declared 1-week moratorium on such actions. These "false" claims were meant to justify Iranian shelling of Iraqi residential areas, the minister charged. He reaffirmed Iraq's commitment to the week-long halt in shelling, but said Iraq will retaliate for Iran's "criminal actions" against Iraqi cities. Iranian artillery continued to pound the Iraqi cities of Basra, Khanaqin, and Mandali, according to a communique broadcast by Tehran radio.

An Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman, in remarks cited by Tehran radio, said that Iran is willing to host a UN delegation to inspect Iraq's "crimes" against Iranian civilians and its "continual use" of chemical weapons.

PLO Affairs

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat arrived in Tunis on 15 February from Moscow where he had attended the funeral of Yuriy Andropov, KUNA reported citing WAFA. Before leaving Moscow, 'Arafat held meetings with the Indian prime minister, the Pakistani president, the Portuguese prime minister, and the general secretary of the Mongolian Communist Party, Baghdad Voice of the PLO radio said.

Egypt

An "official" source denied a Jordanian newspaper report that President Husni Mubarak will put the Camp David accords to a public referendum, MENA reported. The report is "absolutely baseless," the source affirmed.

Libya

Elections at the current session of the General People's Congress in Tripoli have resulted in several personnel changes including a new secretary of the General People's Congress, a new chairman of the General People's Committee, and a new secretary of the General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison, JANA announced.

Syria

President Hafiz al-Asad held private talks with the chairman of the FRG's Christian Social Union, Franz-Josef Strauss, on 16 February, Damascus television and Hamburg DPA reported. The FRG official and his delegation also met with Defense Minister Mustafa Talas, Damascus radio said.

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Karmal Returns From Andropov Funeral 16 Feb
LD161853 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1530 GMT 16 Feb 84

[Text] Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council, who went to Moscow at the head of a delegation to attend Andropov's funeral, returned to Kabul this afternoon.

At Kabul Airport, he was welcomed by Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers; members of the Politburo and Secretariat of the Central Committee; members of the party Central Committee; members of the Revolutionary Council; vice chairmen and members of the Council of Ministers; generals and officers of the DRA Armed Forces; heads and members of the Islamic Affairs Department and High Council of Ulema and Clergy; members of the social organizations' leadership delegation; members of the Supreme Court; party cadres; and the charge d'affaires of the USSR Embassy in Kabul.

The BAKHTAR correspondent adds that the special aircraft carrying Babrak Karmal and his delegation landed at Kabul Airport at around 1700. At the airport, Babrak Karmal was welcomed by Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, members of the Politburo, secretaries of the PDPA Central Committee, the minister of foreign affairs, the minister of transport, and the charge d'affaires of the USSR Embassy in Kabul.

Babrak Karmal then approached the others in the welcoming party and greeted each of them in turn.

President Replies to Indira Gandhi Message
LD150004 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council, sent a message to New Delhi in reply to Prime Minister I. Gandhi's message sent while flying over Afghanistan.

The message expresses confidence that the present friendly relations and productive cooperation between the people and governments of the two countries will be further extended and consolidated for the interest of both countries and peace and security in the world.

I. Gandhi, when flying over Afghanistan, had sent a message addressed to Babrak Karmal. The message expressed best wishes for the tranquillity of the people of Afghanistan and India's desire for the broadening of cooperation between the DRA and the Republic of India in the interest of both countries.

Karmal Addresses Revolutionary Council 11 Feb
LD150940 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Speech by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of PDPA Central Committee and chairman of DRA Revolutionary Council, delivered at 11 February extraordinary session of DRA Revolutionary Council — recorded]

[Excerpts] Esteemed members of the DRA Revolutionary Council: The heroic people of Afghanistan, together with their pioneer and experienced party, the PDPA, who gained much experience in the difficult political battle, are preparing to welcome the sixth anniversary of their glorious and proud revolution.

The gains of our revolution would have been greater if foreign interference and the undeclared war did not exist. What has been accomplished in various fields of political, social, economic, cultural, and national life is all in accordance with the fundamental interests of the overwhelming majority of the people of Afghanistan.

Our people daily see and perceive that the party's policy and revolutionary sovereignty are directed at their interests. Therefore, they volunteer to take positions in the trenches of the gains of the revolution and the democratic system. Not by force or orders, but by their determination, their conscientious perception of responsibility, their love of the homeland, thousands of patriots in villages, districts and cities are joining the ranks of revolution defense groups, volunteer tribal militia, and civil and self-defense groups. They, alongside the proud Armed Forces, are carrying out an heroic struggle against the counterrevolutionaries, bandits, servants, and mercenaries of imperialism and reaction and for the defense of the honor of the homeland, freedom of the people, peaceful work, and the revolutionary sovereignty of our beloved homeland, Afghanistan.

Today our homeland faces difficult and hazardous moments. Imperialism and reaction are intensifying their aggression, continuing their open and shameful interference in the internal affairs of our country, and striving to restore the sovereignty of oppressors and exploiters and to deprive our people of the right to live in peace and security, of the right to prosperity and progress, by embarking on terrorism, suppression, murder, subversion, [word indistinct] and armed robbery.

The local organs of state power discharge their duties with the support of the broad masses of the people. These organs have the peasants' support on the act on implementing democratic land and water reforms. The task of forming revolution defense groups and self-defense groups rests with these local organs. They consolidate people to struggle against the counterrevolutionaries and bandits, to implement immediate social work, and to give assistance to security organs in the restoration of peace and order.

Government ministries and departments are being instructed to take measures to enhance work effectiveness, to adopt a timely and authoritive approach to issues, to improve work methods, and to achieve harmony in joint action with local party organs.

The PDPA, by raising the level of demands with regard to the effects of government administration, is now paying more attention to the issue of cadres, particularly leadership cadres.

The party believes that the present leadership cadres should discharge party work with honor and the necessary authority, and (?inject) in themselves discipline, order, and creative initiative. They should be sympathetic and kind, be an example to others, and emphatically observe revolutionary legality. All government [word indistinct] and each official should be honest and [word indistinct] to serve the party, the revolution, people's sovereignty, the homeland, and the people.

In the recent session of government and party leadership organs held at the Council of Ministers Headquarters, the defects and shortcomings existing in the work of government departments were exposed.

The party and government have instructed the ministries and departments to embark on careful organizational work of [word indistinct], institutions and their subordinate enterprises; and to take effective measures for the consolidation of government and work discipline, for raising the level of organizational tasks, efficiency, initiative, and creative and responsible approach to allotted work, and for accomplishment of duties vis-a-vis government organs.

Instructions have been (?given) to take immediate and practical measures to achieve serious observance of revolutionary legality, the (?prevention) of signs or manifestations of anarchy, disorder, nonobservance of government and work discipline, bureaucracy, misuse of power, embezzlement of government and people's money, or immoral and bad behavior. Perpetrators of these antiparty deeds will be held responsible and will be punished.

I wish to repeat that the party is serious in these demands. With the power of its authority, as well as by the power and authority of the people, observance of revolutionary laws will be secured. The toilers and the young working class of Afghanistan will secure careful work organization, revolutionary virtue, conscious discipline, a high perception of responsibility in the work of cadres, order, and organization in government [word indistinct].

At present, there are 29 provinces, 87 cities — 6 cities with wards — 2 major districts, 186 districts, 99 subdistricts, and more than 25,500 villages in Afghanistan. [Passage indistinct]

The local organs of revolutionary sovereignty are becoming a great force which, so far, has not been fully utilized in the interest of the revolution. These mass organs which are very close to the people and have many links, will have a significant influence on social and government life in our country, on democratization and reconstruction of the society. The source of their power and the major guarantor of the effective work of the local organs of state power and administration is and will be the guiding role of the party over them.

The party will work constantly and without deviation for the accomplishment of tasks embodied in the action program to democratize government power and that of its respective organs, to broaden and consolidate their links with the people, and to regulate their activities in accordance with the needs and requirements of the toilers.

Esteemed members of the Revolutionary Council, the draft of the law on local organs of the state power and administration which has been presented to you for consideration and study, is the result of long work and careful preparation, which have been carried out by the PDPA Central Committee, the Revolutionary Council and its Presidium, the Council of Ministers, ministries and departments, local organs of government power, scientific institutions, and national elements.

In accordance with the Revolutionary Council decree dated 22 September 1981, the original draft of the law on local organs of the state power and administration was submitted for discussion and suggestions to the general public. Therefore, the above draft was published in *HEWAD* and passed on for the information of the people by other mass media.

In the above draft, a series of useful amendments was made for precision and completion.

According to an amendment made on the draft, on the basis of the proposals of representatives of social groups and delegates of the nationalities and tribes of the country and of some social organizations, the right to introduce candidates to the local organs of government power is given to the National Fatherland Front [NFF] and to its member organizations, that is to say the PDPA, the Democratic Youth of Afghanistan, the Democratic Women of Afghanistan, the DRA trade union, cooperatives, other social organization, workers collectives, Armed Forces personnel, and [word indistinct] in their residential areas.

I think this amendment has profound meaning. The NFF, on the basis of the class unity of the peasants and workers, is uniting within itself all patriotic forces in the country.

The introduction of candidates of the party, of social organizations, of workers collectives, of Armed Forces units, and of subjects for representation in the local organs, by the NFF, stems from the confidence of the people in the NFF and this will further consolidate its prestige and credibility.

The proposals to broaden further the authority of the local organs of the state power are acceptable and reasonable because, at present, the local organs of the state administration are resolving socioeconomic and cultural issues.

In the present draft of the law, the solution of all issues having a local character, including improving the economy, eliminating illiteracy, public health, improving living conditions and the work of all toiling groups, securing equality — that is to say equal rights for all nationalities, tribes, and clans in the country — consolidating unity and fraternal friendship between nationalities, tribes, and clans, securing democratic legality, maintaining security and peace in the area under jurisdiction and so forth, will be within the power of the local organs of the state power.

Many people believe that local organs of state power should have a specific and significant role in implementing the party's land policy and in solving the basic problems of agricultural production. We say this is correct. Local organs of state power should take an active part in implementing democratic transformations in agriculture in the interests of toiling peasants and with the participation of peasants. Therefore, in accordance with the draft law, efforts to implement the land and water reform, to achieve control over the use of land which will be distributed as a result of the land reform and control over the use of pastures, water resources, forests and other natural resources, assistance to peasants to obtain agricultural machinery, improved sowing seed and chemical fertilizer, the sale of agricultural produce, assisting and encouraging agricultural cooperatives have been included in the section concerning the duties and responsibilities of the local organs of state power. Of course, the main work concerning implementation of the party's land reform, [?involves] the Ministry of Irrigation, the peasant cooperatives, and other state organs, under the party leadership, and relies on local organs or state power and the wide participation of toiling peasants. The Army and sarandoy should ensure the necessary security in the localities for the successful implementation of land reform.

Considering the present situation and the continuous interventions and aggression by imperialism and reaction against the DRA, some people have proposed that the law should reflect more specifically the authority and obligation of local organs of state power in the area of strengthening the country's defense forces. Considering these proposals, it has been stated now in the draft law that local organs of state power will help implement the general conscription and call-up to military service. [Words indistinct] will form civil defense groups. Voluntary tribal units and militia, self-defense groups in inhabited areas and in places of work, and other voluntary units for defense of the homeland and revolution will help to form revolution defense groups to assist the families of military personnel, martyrs, and those who have been disabled in defense of the April Revolution.

During completion of the draft law, several proposals, opinions, observations, and verbal amendments have also been considered. At the same time, a number of disputable and unsubstantiated proposals, opinions, and observations were also received which cannot be accepted.

I will name one of these important proposals. During the survey of general opinion and during discussion of the draft law, the subject of the age at which citizens of the DRA have the right to be elected as a people's representative aroused much interest.

That article of the draft law, according to which DRA citizens have the right to be elected as a representative of the people on completion of their 18th year, was given wide support. But there were also proposals to put this age at 20 or even higher. The Revolutionary Council Presidium and its commission comprehensively assessed this topic and came to the conclusion that the age for election as a representative of the people in local organs of state power should remain at 18 as envisaged in the draft law. Comrades, this a democratic and reasonable decision.

Esteemed members of the Revolutionary Council, it can be said with confidence that the lengthy and precise work on compiling the law on local organs of state power and administration has successfully ended. You all had previously familiarized yourself with the draft of the law. Therefore, there is no need to go into detail about its content. I just want to draw your attention to some important points and articles of the law and its importance.

On the system of local organs (?sovereignty), it can be said briefly that the system of the local organs of the state power and administration will be created on the basis of the political and administrative divisions of the present area of the country.[as heard] In the present situation and circumstances, the administrative and regional units of our country comprise provinces, cities, major-districts, districts, subdistricts, and villages.

The law envisages the right of popular vote. All DRA citizens, male and female, who have completed their 18th year, have the right to elect the representatives of the people or themselves elected as the representative of the people in local jirgas, of course, with the exception of people who have been recognized as mentally handicapped, as defined by the law, and those people who are in detention as a reult of [words indistinct] penal cases, or are completing a prison term. The law states that any kind of threat,direct or indirect, to the rights of DRA citizens in relation to their taking part in the elections is forbidden because of their race, nationality, tribe, clan, religion, religious sect, parentage, wealth, social position, language, skin, education, the time spent in an area, and type and character of job.

The law also secures the equality of the right to vote. That is, each electorate will have the right of one vote. [Words indistinct] The law envisages that the number of representatives of the people in each jirga will be specified by the Presidium of the Revolutionary Council considering the density of population, area, and other local conditions. Similarly, other measures will be taken to prevent double voting. In the present stage of development of the revolution, elections of the local organs of the state power, in different stages, is possible and reasonable. The law envisages that representatives of the jirgas of subdistricts, districts, cities, which have been divided into wards, major-districts, and provinces will be elected by lower local jirgas. But the jirgas of villages, localities, and cities, which have not been divided into wards, will be elected directly by the citizens with direct voting.

In the present sitaution, the election of representatives of the people will be carried out with open voting. This method of electing representatives is democratic, free, simple, and understandable for our people and conforms with the customs and national and long-lasting traditions of our people.

The democratic organization of the local organs of the state power will also be reflected in the composition of the introduction of the people's candidates for representation.

Finally, the law specifies conditions whereby the delegates of the people in jirgas will be regarded as elected. The delegates of the people in villages, wards, and cities without wards will be regarded as elected under the circumstances where the majority of voters votes for them. The people's delegates in district, subdistricts, major-districts, provinces, and cities with constituencies are regarded as elected when the majority of the delegates in the lower jigas vote for them.

The law specifies that election commissions comprising the delegates of the broad masses of the society will be set up for the organization and convocation of election.

Dear comrades, as the local jigas are the highest government organs in localities, the law gives them broad authority for the implementation of government duties within the area under their jurisdiction.

These bodies, directly and through the other organs they create, are directing in their respective areas all government, socioeconomic, and cultural affairs. The duties of organizing the execution of the government plans, socioeconomic development, and collection of tax are being given to them in their respective areas.

They assist the people in improving government, cooperative and private trades, and providing foodstuff and livelihood services. Taking measures to control prices and trade regulations is also part of their duties.

The local organs of state power should play an important role in implementing measures for eradication of illiteracy, construction of schools, opening of libraries and health centers, organization of education and health, in taking measures to find jobs for the people, and in organizing useful social work.

The local organs of state power, as the real masters of affairs, take steps to prepare and consider the master plan for the construction of cities, distribution of land plots for the construction of dwelling houses, mosques, social buildings, and commercial and livelihood projects. They also give permission for their construction, organization of work for building residential centers, maintenance and supervision of communication lines and roads, progress of communication, and take steps to remedy the consequence of natural disasters.

Esteemed comrades, the internal organization and manner of activities of the local organs of the state power, envisaged by the law, will assist the successful implementation of their duties and authorities.

The local organs are created from the people's delegates. As mentioned above, the numerical composition of these jirgas will be specifically determined in considering the population of the administrative unit.

I have already spoken about the rights and duties of the people's delegates in the local jirgas. I only want to point out that the people's delegation will discharge their duties in jirgas voluntarily, without being subjected to dismissal from fundamental work [as heard] and without any personal interest or private financial concession.

The people's delegates to jirgas are being elected for a 4-year term. This period is sufficient for a delegate to get familiarized with his authority, perceive his rights and accomplish his duties, establish firm links with the people, and represent them in the governing organ with full awareness.

As the local organs are the highest organs of the state power in the localities, their decisions are imperative on all institutions, departments, organizations, officials in charge of the affairs, and subjects within the area under the jirgas' jurisdiction. On the other hand, these decisions must be in accordance with the law, otherwise the superior executive committee suspends them or they are nullified by the superior jirga.

In the draft law, an important provision has been embodied, whereby the Revolutionary Council Presidium can dissolve the jirga and order a new election if the jirga violates the provisions of the Basic Principles, other laws, decrees of the DRA Revolutionary Council, its Presidium, and the DRA Government, resulting in injury to the public, social, and government interests.

The local jirga appoints its executive committee; this committee presents reports to its own jirga and superior executive committee.

The executive committee can solve in practice all issues within the jurisdiction of its jirga and is duty bound, at least once a year, to present a report to its jirga.

Departments and directorates of the executive committees of the local jirgas are accomplishing broad work for the direction of socioeconomic and cultural sectors.

The local organs of the state power, in accordance with the DRA Basic Principles, are supporting the patriotic activities of all members of tribes and their credible elders for the restoration of peace, fraternity, quiet and security in their residential areas, and defense of the DRA borders. These organs look after the tribes to raise the standard of their material, spiritual, and cultural life, as well as their living conditions.

Esteemed members of the Revolutionary Council, I briefly assessed the major points and provisions of the law. Surely, by studying the draft law, you have perceived its importance and value. This law covers all phases of organizational activities of the local organs of state power and administration, including system, internal structure of the local organs of power, election procedure, duties and authorities, work organization, and legal stand of the people's delegates. I think the law is capable of being approved and affirmed by the Revolutionary Council.

Esteemed members of the Revolutionary Council, let me express satisfaction that the Revolutionary Council after studying and considering of the draft law is approving it.

By the approval and enforcement of this law, attention of the party and government are drawn to its practical implementation. For this purpose, it is envisaged that the Revolutionary Council Presidium and the DRA Council of Ministers should be given responsibility to amend the relevant legal documents in accordance with the spirit of the new law, and also to draft new documents for the completion and specification of the law's provisions.

It is also required that the government should draft a series of resolutions, procedural and guideline provisions. The need also arises for a series of amendments and supplements in the present laws. Most of all, the important duty is to secure the practical implementation of this law.

Formidable organizational work is our challenge—most of all, actions to explain the law to people, its learning and understanding, explanation of its fundamental provisions to the DRA subjects, and then taking steps for election and convocation of the local organs of the state power and regulating the work of the organs of the people's sovereignty, which will be created for the first time.

From now on, we have to take serious steps in training such cadres in the framework of the Social Science Institute of the PDPA Central Committee.,

Comrades, members of the Revolutionary Council, at the end, allow me to express confidence that the approval and practical implementation of law will play an important role in realizing the political policy of the PDPA Central Committee. The law will consolidate the people's sovereignty and evolution and deepen the genuine democracy and organization of the forces of our people for the defense of gains of the revolution and successful construction of a new, democratic, progressive, and just society.

Revolutionary Council Resolution on Peace Policy
LD121655 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 12 Feb 84

[DRA Revolutionary Council resolution entitled "On USSR Measures and Initiatives To Maintain and Consolidate Peace, Halt Arms Race, and Broaden International Cooperation," issued in Kabul on 11 February]

[Excerpts] With sincere endeavors for the preservation of a lasting peace in the world, prevention of nuclear war, and elimination of international tension, and also by expressing serious anxiety over the tense international situation which has resulted from the irrational, adventurist, and aggressive policies of the United States and its allies, in its extraordinary session, the DRA Revolutionary Council assessed and studied comprehensively the resolution of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium dated 29 December 1983 on the international situation and Soviet foreign policy. The DRA Revolutionary Council fully and completely supports the intiatives and efforts of the Soviet Union to preserve and consolidate peace, prevent the arms race, and expand cooperation among the countries.

The consistent and unswerving policy of peace and friendship among the masses followed by the Soviet Union is in conformity with the interests of the DRA and will always be supported by all people of Afghanistan.

Immediately after the victory of the anti-imperialist and antifuedal April Revolution, Afghanistan announced to all people of the world that its foreign policy is based on the principles of peaceful coexistence and positive and active nonalignment. These principles have been reflected in the Basic Principles of the DRA and are an inseparable part of the state policy of our country. The DRA follows the policy of consolidating world peace and expanding and strengthening all-round and traditional cooperation with the Soviet Union and other countries of the socialist countries and will do so in the future.

The DRA, as a peace-loving country, in its foreign policy follows consistently and unswervingly the principle of expanding and strengthening friendly relations with other countries, especially with neighboring countries, based on mutual respect for national independence and sovereignty, territorial integrity,and noninterference in one another's internal affairs. But this principle of the DRA's foreign policy, which enjoys the support and approval of all progressive forces of the world, has aroused the barbaric anger and hatred on international imperialism, headed by the United States and the reaction of the region.

The undeclared war against the DRA waged by imperialism, headed by the United States and the reaction of the region has not been stopped. Delivery of arms to the counterrevolution is increasing more than ever. The activities to train bandits in special camps in Pakistan are continuing. More than before the Reagan administration resorts to shameless methods to disrupt the progress achieved in talks between Afghanistan and Pakistan through the representative of the UN secretary general on the settlement of the situation around Afghanistan.

With the [word indistinct] of the USA which shamelessly and clearly interfere in the internal affairs of independent countries or directly commit agression against them, the situation in various parts of the world has become more tense.

The United States, with the invasion of defenseless Grenada and by waging an undeclared war on Lebanon, showed to the world public that it does not respect the principles of nonintervention in the internal affairs of other countries.

At present, armed interference in DRA affairs by Pakistan, which has been encouraged in its aggression by the United States, has intensified. These are links in the U.S. aggressive policy chain and show its clear and violent obstinacy toward other countries. The strengthening of Pakistan's aggressive power with U.S. assistance, especially the proposed deployment of medium-range nuclear missiles on Pakistani territory, has caused profound anxiety in the DRA. This militaristic action, if implemented, will have a clear aggressive purpose and will create real and direct danger to the peace and security of Pakistan itself and for its neighboring countries including Afghanistan.

The DRA is a country with good intentions and good will, peace-loving and nonaligned, which has never committed and will not commit aggression against anyone. Therefore, the plans of U.S. imperialism to establish its nuclear presence in this region will cause a storm of anger and just condemnation in Afghanistan.

The freedom-loving masses of Afghanistan cannot be intimidated. No conspiracy or (?efforts) of international imperialism and reaction of the region can divert them from their chosen path. Life has shown that all last-ditch efforts of the U.S. imperialism to create obstacles to the consolidation and development of the gains of the April Revolution and our masses are completely hopeless. The people of Afghanistan, relying on the fraternal, comprehensive, and disinterested assistance of their great northern neighbor the Soviet Union and the support of the

socialist community, will continue the construction of a new, prosperous society.

Karachi: Mujahidin Down Helicopter, MIG

BK151718 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] The mujahidin's continuing operations in Afghanistan are reported: Last week, the mujahidin shot down a Soviet helicopter and damaged a number of tanks and jeeps in Herat Province. In Panjwai Subdivision of Qandahar Province, the mujahidin shot down a Soviet MIG which crashed near the Khayr mountains.

BAKHTAR: U.S. Terrorism Bill Contrary to Actions

LD101444 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0415 GMT 10 Feb 84

[Text] Kabul, Feb. 9, BAKHTAR: In his recent state of the union address US President Reagan lashed out at international terrorism for the umpteenth time. Demagogically declaring his resolve to put an end to this kind of terrorism he promised to submit to Congress in the near future proposals on a new bill on combatting terrorism, which is now being drafted in the US Department of Justice.

The bill has not yet been adopted, but has already evoked lively commentaries. After all it is exactly the actions of the present US Administration which have led to a situation where, as *THE WASHINGTON POST* writes, terrorism has turned into a quickly developing business abroad. There are hundreds of groupings which can play the role of mercenaries for different states there, the newspaper observed. It is easy to find examples to illustrate the point: Afghan counter-revolutionary formations which have entrenched themselves in Pakistan and which conduct subversive and terrorist activities against Afghanistan are fully on the CIA's payroll. The United States has already spent hundreds of millions of dollars on their training and arming. US instructors who have rich experience of conducting "special operations" in many countries, orient their trainees, as it follows from the CIA-prepared memo on the situation in Afghanistan, on disorganizing the Karmal regime in different spheres. In practice this means the staging of assassinations of officials and all those who support the new government in the political sphere; subversion at economic projects of Afghanistan in the economic sphere; and destruction of schools, hospitals, libraries and mosques in the social sphere. All this is being done on direct instructions from the present US Administration which, judging by what its leaders say, is not going to abandon its terroristic policy towards Afghanistan in future, either.

There are many other examples to this effect, for instance US encouragement to terrorists acting against Nicaragua, Cuba, Angola and some other countries.

According to the US press, under the new bill a conspiracy being prepared in the United States with a view to staging violent acts abroad will be considered tantamount to the violation of the US criminal code. If this is really so, it will be only fair if the new law will punish primarily the present authors of US foreign policywith the President at the head, since they have given official seal to terrorism.

Refugees Praise Iran's Jerusalem Maneuvers

GF111942 (Clandestine) Voice of Islamic Revolution of Afghanistan in Pashto 1700 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Summary from poor reception] Two days ago, Afghan refugees issued a message in which they praised the Jerusalem Liberation Maneuvers and called for forming a joint force made up of all Islamic nations. The message sent to the Voice of Islamic Revolution of Afghanistan by the Afghan refugees in Iran says:

The Islamic Revolution has been successful under the leadership of Imam Khomeyni. This success inspires all Islamic aspirations and struggle in the world. This success has also drawn a reaction from the world conservative and imperialist elements who aim to crush the Isalmic Revolution in Iran. Under these circumstances, the Jerusalem Liberation Maneuvers are a good answer to the wars imposed on Muslims by various quarters. We Afghan refugees in Iran announce our participation in Jerusalem Liberation Maneuvers and call on all Muslims to unite for the liberation of Palestine, Afghanistan, and other oppressed Muslim nations.

[Signed] Afghan Islamic revolutionary mujahidin, 9 February 1984

'Thousands' Participate

GF121930 (Clandestine) Voice of Islamic Revolution of Afghanistan in Dari 1719 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Text] Thousands of the popular forces of the Afghan Muslim revolutionaries residing in Iran participated in the second phase of the Liberation of Jerusalem Maneuvers side-by-side with hundreds of thousands of the popular Islamic Revolution Guards Corps forces and thousands of Muslim Iraqi revolutionaries on Friday. The maneuvers started in over 120 locations on the soil of our neighboring country of Iran. The popular Afghan forces living in Iran participated in the great Liberation of Jerusalem Maneuvers at the request and invitation of the leadership council of the Muslim revolutionaries of Afghanistan and to prepare the ground for the formation of the Islamic liberation camp.

Gandhi Criticizes Attempts To Weaken Center

BK161709 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 16 Feb 84

[Excerpt] The prime minister has called upon the people to rise above narrow considerations of caste and religion and work unitedly for the progress of the country. Mrs Gandhi was speaking at a function held to commemorate the 607th birth anniversary of Guru Ravidas in New Delhi today. She cautioned the people against attempts being made by certain forces to divide them in the name of religion and regionalism.

The prime minister criticized the opposition parties for trying to weaken the center. A strong center, she said, is necessary to build a strong India.

Mrs Gandhi reaffirmed that her party is not interested in destablizing opposition-run state governments.

She also referred to attempts being made by certain powers to weaken and destabilize democratically elected governments in different parts of the world, including India. These powers are always working to spread false propaganda against leaders in these countries. She asked people not to be misled by such propaganda and help the government in carrying out developmental schemes.

The prime minister spoke about the danger of nuclear war and said people of the world are looking up to India as leader of the Nonaligned Movements to defuse the situation.

PRC's Huang Hua Invited To Stay Another 3 Days

BK171555 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Text] It was officially stated in New Delhi today that the leader of the Chinese delegation to the conference on population, Mr Huang Hua, has been invited to stay in India for another 3 days after the meeting is over as the guest of the government. Mr Huang Hua was formerly foreign minister of China.

An official spokesman said that the opportunity provided by Mr Huang Hua's visit will be utilized to exchange views with him as an elder statesman.

Mr Huang Hua is scheduled to meet the external affairs minister. He will also call on the prime minister.

Zia's Praise of Maqbool Butt 'Regretted'

BK171403 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Text] India has regretted Pakistan President General Zia's description of Maqbool Butt as a great freedom fighter. Maqbool Butt was executed last Saturday on charges, which include murder.

An official spokesman said in New Delhi today that India also deplores the campaign in the Pakistani press on the subject and the attempts being made to project Maqbool Butt as a martyr though he was condemned for criminal activities.

Student-Police Clashes in Lahore, Karachi Noted

BK170308 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Text] In Pakistan, students protesting against the military government's ban on their unions clashed with the police in several parts of the country yesterday. In Lahore, they attacked university offices and set on fire two government trucks. They also damaged furniture of the offices of several heads of department of Punjab University. In Karachi, police are reported to have used tear gas to disperse students who were demonstrating at a medical college.

Mayor of Moscow, Delegation Arrive for Visit

BK161009 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 16 Feb 84

[Text] The mayor of Moscow, Mr Vladimir Promyslov, arrived in New Delhi today on a 7-day visit to India. He was received at the airport by the Delhi mayor, Mr Mohinder Singh Sathi.

Mr Promyslov, who is leading a delegation, said that he will exchange views with the Delhi Municipal Corporation authorities on water supply, urban transport, architectural planning, and city sanitation.

Soviet Teams Help To Repair Oil, Gas Wells

BK111320 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] India has considerably increased the yield of crude oil by repairing some 18 Oil and Natural Gas Corporation [ONGC] wells in Gujarat. Seventeen such wells have already restarted production and 7,000 tons of crude was obtained last month from four of them. The work is being done with the help of Soviet teams. According to the Soviet deputy oil minister, Mr Takoyev, repairs are expected to be completed in eight more wells by August. Two additional teams are to be inducted for this purpose.

The Soviet deputy minister said that nearly 200 sick wells of the ONGC, planned to be repaired in this manner, could produce 1 million tons of additional crude per year. On prospects for oil in the Gujarat region, Mr Takoyev said there are good prospects in the deeper layers, especially in the (Akleshwar) area, and the USSR would depute seismic survey parties to explore these prospects.

Statement Issued on River Talks With Bangladesh

BK161039 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 16 Feb 84

[Text] India and Bangladesh have decided to jointly inspect the ad hoc sharing of the Tista waters at three points. They have also exchanged views on each other's updated proposals for the aug-

mentation of the flow of the Ganges at Farakka. This was stated in a joint press statement issued in New Delhi after the 2-day meeting of the Indo-Bangladesh Joint Rivers Commission. The meeting, adjourned yesterday, will be held again in Dhaka from the 29th of next month. Before the next meeting, both the countries will make further feasibility studies of the two proposals.

The statement says the commission expressed satisfaction at the progress achieved by the standing committee and local level committees on issues regarding embankments and river cleaning work. On the issue relating to water utilization of border rivers the standing committee was directed to complete its recommendations at the earliest.

The Bangladesh delegation left New Delhi for home this morning. The leader of the delegation and the Bangladesh agriculture minister, Mr Obaidullah Khan, expressed the hope that some definite conclusion may be reached at the Dhaka meeting.

The irrigation minister, Mr Ram Niwas Mirdha, who saw off the Bangladesh delegation at Delhi Airport, told newsmen that the discussions were held in an atmosphere of cordiality, frankness, and mutual understanding. He said the two countries are working seriously to complete the feasibility studies by April as stipulated in the memorandum of understanding finalized in October 1982.

Reportage on Punjab Situation, Curfews
BK161609 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 16 Feb 84

[Excerpts] In Punjab, the situation is returning to normal. In Jullundur, the curfew was relaxed from 0800 to 1800 today. During this period, all shops were open. The curfew will be extended till Saturday with relaxation from 0800 to 1800 tomorrow.

In Amritsar, the curfew has been lifted in some more areas. In the remain areas, it has been extended till Sunday morning. Curfew will be relaxed in the city for 4 hours from 0600 tomorrow and the day after to enable the people to buy necessities.

In Ludhiana, the curfew was lifted in some areas while in another it was relaxed for 2 hours this afternoon. In Patiala and Ferozepore, the night curfew has been reclamped.

The situation in Haryana is fully under control. In a statement, the state chief minister, Mr Bhajan Lal, said no untoward incident was reported in any part of the state today. Strict vigil has been maintained in sensitive areas.

Meanwhile, the Haryana roadways bus services between New Delhi and Chandigarh were resumed this afternoon.

The home minister, Mr P.C. Sethi, has appealed to all sections of the people in Punjab and Haryana to restore peace and harmony. In his appeal today, Mr Sethi said the government is keen to find ways for a solution to the problem in Punjab and all sections should work for creating the right atmosphere.

AFP: Heavy Fire Exchanged
BK170810 Hong Kong AFP in English 0807 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Text] New Delhi, Feb 17 (AFP) — Indian para-military troops today exchanged "heavy fire" with gunmen suspected of being Sikh militants in the holy Sikh city of Amritsar in Punjab, the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA reported.

Quoting official reports from the troubled northern (?city), the agency said that a senior official of the federal para-military troops was fired upon from inside the Golden Temple, the holiest Sikh shrine, as he went to inspect his men posted outside the temple. There has been no report of casualties so far.

PTI said that the firing lasted two hours and 30 minutes until early afternoon. The PTI report came from Chandigarh, the joint capital of Punjab and Haryana states. Journalists were unable to reach the scene of the clash as a curfew is in effect in Amritsar.

Jammu Observes Strike To Protest Punjab Violence
BK170849 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Text] Jammu City is observing a bundh [strike] today on a call by the Bharatiya Janata Party in protest against violent incidents in Punjab. Our Jammu correspondent reports that most of the shops are closed. Only vehicles are plying on the roads. State and central government offices are, however, functioning normally. Schools and colleges have been closed throughout Jammu district as a precautionary measure.

Kashmir Chief Asked To Stop Protest Move
BK161621 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 16 Feb 84

[Text] The All-India Congress Committee-I general secretary, Mr G.K. Moopanar, has urged the Jammu and Kashmir chief minister, Dr Farooq Abdullah, to take immediate and firm action against the Awami Action Committee chairman, Maulavi Farooq, who has called for a protest day in the state tomorrow against the execution of Maqbool Butt. In a statement issued in New Delhi this evening, Mr Moopanar said that the Maulavi's call for protest deserves the utmost condemnation as it is a dliberate attempt to provoke communal feelings and to encourage antinational elements in the valley. He said it is a matter of grave concern that inspite of declaring his loyalty to the country, Dr Farooq Abdullah is continuously supporting his alliance with Maulavi Farooq.

Progress on Mobile Surveillance Radar Cited
BK141118 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] The country's first indigenously designed mobile surveillance radar is almost ready for trial. It can detect low-flying, high speed enemy aircraft. The 2-crore rupee radar has been developed within a period of 8 years.

Zia Tells Chernenko of Hope for Cooperatior

BK160819 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Text] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq has expressed the hope that the ties of friendship and cooperation between Pakistan and the Soviet Union will be further strengthened under the new Soviet leadership. In a message to CPSU General Secretary Konstantin Chernenko before leaving Moscow yesterday, the president assured him that Pakistan will spare no effort to achieve this lofty objective. The president expressed the hope that under Chernenko's sagacious leadership, the Soviet Union and its people will continue the efforts toward consolidation of international peace and security and achieve further progress and prosperity.

The president expressed sincere gratitude to the Soviet leader for the warm hospitality extended to him and his delegation during their stay in Moscow.

President Reiterates Commitment to Election Process

BK161718 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 16 Feb 84

[Text] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq has reiterated that the election process will be completed by March 1985 and he is fully committed to a program announced by him in this connection on 12 August. Talking to newsmen soon after his arrival in Karachi this evening, he said it was not yet decided whether the general elections will be held on a party or nonparty basis or whether the system of proportional representation will be adopted. Answering a question, the president said it has also not been decided whether future elections should be held according to the Western democratic or Islamic system. If the decision goes in favor of the Western system, then political parties will be allowed to participate in elections. The president said our inclination is clearly in favor of the Islamic way of life.

The president referred to a proposal by some quarters that there should be accountability before elections, and he said accountability is a continuous process and that he and everyone else, including politicians and government employees, are held accountable. However, new regulations cannot be made on this occasion in this connection.

The president told a questioner that there is no proposal for a fresh invitation to political leaders for talks. However, he is always ready to hold talks with all patriotic elements, individually or collectively, as they desire.

Answering another question, the president said it was finally decided in 1947 that Pakistan is a Muslim-inhabited state and that it is not a country composed of many nationalities. We strictly adhere to the Islamic ideology. The president said those believing in many nationalities should reform themselves and become Pakistanis.

Answering another question, the president said considerable progress has been made in the study concerning the incidents of nonimplementation of agricultural reforms. The government machinery is busy completing this task, and the results of investigations in this connection will be announced at an appropriate time.

The president disclosed that an itinerary of his Sind tour is being prepared.

Answering another question, he said he has many expectations of the new Soviet leadership, but any comment on this matter would be premature.

MRD Leaders Released, Others Still Held

GF111218 Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 11 Feb 84 p 5

[By correspondent]

[Text] Islamabad — The Sind government has extended the detention period of some prominent MRD leaders including Khwaja Khairuddin, Mr Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi and Mr Meraj Mohammad Khan, by another three months.

Other leaders are Mr Abid Zuberi, Mr Nafees Siddiqui and Maulana Ehtramul Haq Thanvi.

Meanwhile, the secretary-general of the Pakistan People's Party, Mr Farooq Leghari, has been released by the Punjab government. Provincial chief Shaikh Rafiq Ahmed and NDP leader Ehsan Wain have also been released.

PPP Repudiates Reports About Party Rift

GF131220 Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 13 Feb 84 p 18

[By correspondent]

[Text] Islamabad — Pakistan People's Party [PPP] has repudiated speculation about an impending rift in the party following the departure of acting party chief Miss Benazir Bhutto to the UK for treatment.

The provincial party leaders from Punjab, Azad Kashmir and the NWFP at two separate meetings in Lahore and Peshawar also renewed full confidence in the leadership of Miss Bhutto. They denounced concerted campaign launched by vested interests against Miss Bhutto.

In Lahore, the divisional presidents and the secretaries of the party from all over Punjab held a five-hour meeting on Saturday to discuss, besides organisational matters, current political situation in the country in the aftermath of the civil disobedience campaign launched by the opposition Movement for the Restoration of Democracy (MRD).

Provincial vice-president Mansoor Malik, while briefing newsmen in Lahore, said yesterday that the meeting paid tribute to the people who laid down their lives or courted arrest during the campaign. It expressed the view that country's security and integrity could be safeguarded only by the restoration of the 1973

constitution and demanded simultaneous elections of the national and the provincial assemblies.

THE PPP leaders from the NWFP and Azad Kashmir, who met at Sherpai, near Peshawar, expressed full confidence in the leadership of Miss Bhutto.

Meanwhile, a top PPP leader and ex-army chief General Tikka Khan was released on Saturday.

Tikka Khan was arrested on August 14, last year, in connection with the MRD campaign and was later interned in his house in Rawalpindi. Two days ago, his detention period was extented for another three months, but on Saturday night the authorities removed guards from outside his house.

Velayati: Iran Will Attack by Land, Sea, Air
GF170615 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Our country's Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati, who is in Geneva to attend the UN disarmament conference, announced at a press conference of foreign correspondents at the European office of the United Nations in Geneva, that in view of the fact that the imposed war is continuing, Iran will attack every part of Iraq it deems necessary by way of land, sea, and air, in addition to the four cities mentioned.

According to IRNA, this press conference, dealt with the Iraqi imposed war against Iran and the bombing of our country with chemical bombs by Iraq. In answer to a correspondent's question regarding the results of the Val-Fajr V operations, Mr Velayati said: The war is continuing and we will act as we like in this war. We have attained our preplanned objectives in these latest operations.

Khamene'i: Our Policy Is War Until Victory
LD161326 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 16 Feb 84

[Text] During special ceremonies attended by Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, president and chief of the Supreme Defense Council, more than 6,000 men of the I Corps of Jerusalem Headquarters left this morning for the battlefronts of good against evil in order to have a final confrontation with Iraq's Ba'thist-Zionist mercenaries.

In a speech during the ceremonies, the chief of the Supreme Defense Council said in regard to the mobilization of the popular forces in our country: A great many countries claim that they can mobilize the people, but we have not witnessed such a situation in the world whereby the movement and mobilization for participating in the front can be carried out as a religious canonical duty. Indeed, such a method of dispatching forces to the fronts is unprecedented in history. Therefore, we should be confident that the victory of this revolution in the battle against its enemies is definite — not only on this front imposed on us by global arrogance through the moribund Iraqi regime, but in every part of the world where a front is opened.

Referring to the fact that the war has not tired the people but instead they are saying in unison "War, war until victory!" Mr Khamene'i said: It is because of such morale that everyone is telling us to prosecute the war speedily and decisively. Therefore, a nation with such morale will undoubtedly triumph. Our people might suffer difficulties and pressures, but it is not possible for them to suffer defeat by a wave of arrogance. We will definitely be victorious.

In another part of his speech, the chief of the Supreme Defense Council, referring to the position of the Islamic Republic of Iran on global plots, said: Morality comes first and foremost in all the battlefields for us. But when the enemy is keeping up his villainy and malice, we must smash the enemy and end the task once and for all.

Continuing his speech, the president said: We have acted in accordance with the behests of Islam and have been patient for 3 and 1/2 years. The world's people understand that we are faithful to morality. Today, however, we have reached a sensitive phase at a time when the Iraqis are themselves insisting: "You announce and the Iraqi people will evacuate Iraqi cities!" And also at a time when the people of our homeland in our cities are telling us: "Answer missiles with missiles!" We have heard this message and responded positively. We will continue to do this.

Referring to appeals to Saddam by criminal refugees to not smash the cities of our country, the chief of the Supreme Defense Council said: If these people have such prestige with Saddam, why didn't they do this during the past 3 or so years? In fact, these people are worried about Saddam's position and want to save him.

The present added: They themselves declared that within a year they killed 2,500 ordinary people. These people are all tarred by the same brush. At a time when the Iraqi regime has made this announcement in order to show its being "wronged," we see for ourselves that yesterday they attacked Khorramabad but were faced with our intrepid fast-flying pilots and before carrying out anything were forced to flee. Therefore, these people don't really think of the nations, and we will continue to retaliate powerfully and severely.

The chief of the Supreme Defense Council, announcing the beginning of the Val-Fajr V operations in connection with the war, said: Our main task is the war and face-to-face battle on the fronts and we will, with strength, conclude this war.

He added: Our main policy course is that of "War, war, until victory!" and with the assistance and succor of God Almighty this wish will come true.

Continuing his speech, the president said: The nations are waiting to see the experience of the Iranian nation. In the course of 5 years, this revolution has strengthened daily. Every sweet and happy event pleases the hearts of the nations and gives them courage to carry out great tasks. In the Middle East and Africa, the nations are waiting for relief and the courage of their actions depends on the victory of our great nation and combatants.

At the conclusion of his speech, Khamene'i addressed Islam's combatants and discussed conditions for the nation's victory. He called on them to practice piety, teaching [as heard], and organization, and deemed safeguarding the military organization as one of the greatest religious duties.

In connection with war victims, he said: The war victims have created values and glory among our nation and have turned the hopes of our enemies into despair. With their missile attack on our cities, our enemies hoped to make our people turn away from the war. However, our people smashed this plot, and they should be respected. I send a message of respect and thanks here to all the people of the war regions. They have made us proud and, of course, we will avenge the criminal deeds perpetrated against them.

Musavi Predicts Topple of Iraqi Regime

LD162008 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 16 Feb 84

[Text] The new Turkish ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Iran today met with Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi. In the course of the meeting, while wishing him success, the prime minister alluded to the need for expansion of relations between the two countries on the basis of mutual interests of the two Muslim nations.

Commenting on the war, the prime minister said: This war was imposed on us; we did not want a war. To establish peace in the region under the present circumstances it is necessary to punish the aggressor. The prime minister added: The important thing is the unstable situation in Iraq. We are convinced that the Iraqi regime will be toppled.

Call for Annihilation of Iraqi Regime

GF170818 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0758 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] The noble sons of Islam started their magnificent operations codenamed "Ya Zahra" on the day of the martyrdom of this great lady of Islam and exalted daughter of the honorable prophet of Islam.

With inspiration from the spirit of the great daughter of the prophet, they are continuing their relentless struggle against the Ba'thist mercenaries. The brilliant fruit of the munificent struggle is to free the region from the evil of tyrants and brutes such as Saddam, the 'Aflaqite. As long as the mercenary and hypocritical regimes, such as the Ba'thist-Zionist regime of Saddam, exist in the area, the Muslim nations will not see the face of freedom, independence, and honor. The only way for the consolidation of peace and security in the region is to topple and annihilate this oppressive and anti-Islamic system.

Yes, the grand struggle of the Islamic military combatants will bring sacred and illustrious deliverance for the Muslims of the area and until this is attained there is no other way.

SAIRI Statements Address Iraqi People

GF161904 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1425 GMT 16 Feb 84

[Excerpt] The Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq [SAIRI] has issued two statements addressed to the oppressed Iraqi people. They are addressed to all the people—Sunnis, Shi'ites, Arabs, Kurds, Turkamen, and all minorities—to the oppressed people whose children have been drawn by Saddam into this crazy war which has created thousands of orphans, widows, and disabled. This war has also lead to the collapse of the country's economy.

The first statement said in part: The flagrant decision to strike at heavily populated cities by Saddam represents a challenge to the will of the people. It is also an extreme violation of the rights of the people. This new challenge in the holy defensive war is, in fact, a turning point which requires our achieving the strategic goals which have developed greater importance. Moreover, this requires our striking at the sensitive regions that are regarded as the remaining bases of the shaky regime. It was only logical that the decision by the Islamic state be voiced by the president of the Islamic Republic of Iran in order to put an end to these savage and criminal practices.

In its statement, the Supreme Assembly urged the children of the Iraqi people to intensify and continue their blows against the institutions of the 'Aflaqist regime, including the presidential palace, the headquarters of the Popular Army, the police and intelligence service offices, and the headquarters of the party organizations, in addition to military installations and oil reservoirs.

The Supreme Assembly also urged the children to flee from the designated targets and go to the holy cities of An-Najaf, Karbala', Samara, Al-Kazimiyah, Bab ash-Shaykh, and other holy places in order to seek safety.

The second statement by the SAIRI was addressed to the Iraqi people after the new escalation by the ruling regime in Baghdad in carrying out its aggression against the Islamic Republic, in order to express its concealed hatred against the Islam and the Muslims and its desperation in continuing its rule. The criminal 'Aflaqist regime violently shelled populated towns in Islamic Iran and regarded the killing of women, children, and elderly people and destruction of hospitals and schools — as a result of the shelling — one of the gains of the war.

The Saddamist regime wants to drag the Iranian and Iraqi peoples into destructive fighting to please its imperialist and colonialist masters.

The SAIRI denounced all the barbaric practices of the Saddamist regime and called on the Iraqi people to:

1. Further resist and remain steadfast until the fall of the criminal regime;

2. Exert great efforts to reduce the bloodshed for which only the Iraqi regime is responsible and stay out of the places designated for shelling;

3. The Muslim Iraqi people should form secret revolutionary committees to further resist the regime and strike at its military and oppressive interests;

4. Form committees which provide health and social services and distribute food to the Iraqi brothers to reduce suffering;

5. Our people in Iraq should know that this phase represents a fateful turning point and that the regime will soon collapse. Thus, they are asked to be ready for all emergencies and extraordinary situations;

6. Our free brothers, the children of the Armed Forces,should play the honorable role which the Muslim Iraqi people expect of

them. Let the children of the Muslim Iraqi people and the Armed Forces know that the Islamic forces of Iran and also the Islamic revolution in Iraq do not want the destruction of the Iraqi Army but regard it as a natural support to the Islamic Revolution and the people and it should bear its historic responsibility in defending the people and the revolution;

7. The SAIRI, at the time when it affirms that the door to repentance is open to all party and Popular Army elements, asks these elements to join the people and the Islamic Revolution and abandon Saddam and direct their arms toward the Saddamist regime.

Children of the Muslim Iraqi people, you should return to God Almighty, be more patient and steadfast in confronting the 'Aflaqist regime, and move effectively in order to topple it. You will see victory soon, God willing.

Iraqi Opposition Sends Two Groups to War Fronts

GF161522 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1230 GMT 16 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Following the savage missile attacks by the Saddamist infidels on the cities of Khuzestan and Iran's retaliation to that action and while condemning the crimes of the Ba'thist-Zionist regime in Iraq, the Supreme Islamic Council of Iraq today sent two groups of Iraqi Muslims to the warfronts for liberating the Iraqi people from the criminal regime of Saddam.

Reza'i Appoints 'Meek Mobilization Unit' Chief

LD161512 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 16 Feb 84

["Text" of order issued by Mohsen Reza'i, commander in chief of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, appointing Mohammad 'Ali Rahmani as official responsible for Meek Mobilization Unit of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Your Excellency Hojjat ol-Eslam Hajj Sheykh Mohammad 'Ali Rahmani, may your good work continue: In accordance with this order, Your Excellency hereby is appointed to the post of responsible chief of the Meek Mobilization Unit [Vahed-e Basij-e Mostaz'afin] of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps. In view of your goodness and piety, inspired by the life-giving guidelines of the great leader, it is hoped that you will be able to take a useful and effective step toward developing the quantitative and qualitative growth of that unit along the path of strengthening and organizing the 20-million-man army and, with the cooperation and assistance of the committed clergy, particularly the esteemed Friday imams and with the daily-increasing mobilization of the moral and material capabilities within the framework of the law, you will realize this genuine Islamic aspiration and this age-old wish of our great imam. I beseech Almighty God to grant success to Your Excellency and all the faithful servants of Islam.

[Signed] Mohsen Reza'i, commander in chief of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,638

LD161813 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 16 Feb 84

[Communique No 1,638 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] Following the successful operations of the heroes of Islam in the Val-Fajr V operation zone, at 0935 this morning,an intruding aircraft of the aggressive Iraqi Army was shot down by the fighter aircraft of the Air Force of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran over the southern region.

During the past 24 hours, the cities of Basra, Khanaqin, and Mandali continued to come under the artillery fire of the powerful combatants of Islam.

Yesterday, the pride-inspiring combatants of Islam on the fronts of the imposed war bravely continued their defense against the abject enemy and, on every front, by means of heavy artillery and mortar fire, they dealt spectacular blows to the Saddamist forces, which are being routed; so much so that in the Panjwin region the Khormal post in Iraq was pounded and about 50 Iraqi servicemen were killed or wounded and two of their heavy lorries were completely destroyed. In the southern regions, one ammunition dump and one mortar launcher of the Saddamist forces were set ablaze by the fire of our combatants.

In the Sharhani region, the movements of a patrol group of the Ba'thist mercenaries were foiled and the enemy patrol, suffering losses and casualties, fled.

On the Salehabad border front, the heroes of the Gendarmerie, by means of accurate fire with heavy weapons, pounded one enemy motor pool and inflicted damage on the Saddamists' vehicles, killing or wounding about 20 enemy servicemen.

On the Abadan and Khorramshahar fronts, our forces managed to destroy part of the defense communication line of the Saddamist forces and more than 15 heavy and light weapons emplacements and personnel trenches of the Iraqi forces.

Progress of Val-Fajr V Operation Detailed

Unnumbered Communique

LD161743 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 16 Feb 84

[Unnumbered communique issued by Katim ol-Anbiya' Headquarters, joint operations center of Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. There is neither strength nor power except through God, the high, the great. And fight them until there is no more sedition and so that the whole of religion will belong to God. [Koranic quotations]

Greetings to the liberal men who have given their hearts to the path of righteousness. A salute to the fair and fighting combatants who, under the command of the vicar of the imam of the

era and commander in chief of the Armed Forces, Imam Khomeyni, are assaulting global blasphemy and Zionism and whose heart-warming chant of "God is great" is reverberating through the sacred atmosphere of the battlefields, bringing the glad tidings of victory and conquest and glory and grandeur for those traversing the path of Islam. Nation of Islam, Muslim revolutionary people, the fair-minded creators of dawn, while continuing the first phase of the Val-Fajr V operations, which began at 2400 hours last night under the sacred codename "Ya Zahra" in the Chenguleh region situated halfway between Mehran and Dehloran, after crossing harassing obstacles, minefields, booby traps, and barbed wire entanglements, by disrupting the organization of enemy forces in that region, succeeded in destroying the 4th Brigade of the Iraqi Border Guard and in killing the brigade's commanding officer. Also, an enemy commando battalion in the operational zone was destroyed and its servicemen were either killed, wounded, captured, or have fled the scene. The headquarters of the 47th Artillery Battalion of the Iraqi Zionist regime was also destroyed thanks to fire opened by the blasphemy-eradicating combatants of the Islamic corps.

Islam's forces, apart from liberating the areas and heights announced in previous communiques, also succeeded in liberating the (Taqi Mardah) heights and (Kuh-e Tunel) during some heavy fighting with the forces of the Zionist enemy and also in occupying Iraq's Ash-Shihabi base.

Similarly, their mortar launching and observation posts fell into the hands of Islam's forces. During that phase of the operations, so far more than 1,000 enemy servicemen have been killed or wounded and a group of them have been captured by Islam's combatants. Also, dozens of tanks, APC's, vehicles, and 10 enemy arsenals were set ablaze and destroyed. Moreover, appreciable quantities of enemy weapons and equipment were captured intact by Islam's forces. Today, following the deployment by Islam's combatants in the new positions, the Zionist enemy embarked on six counterattacks; but thanks to the courage and steadfastness of the zealous sons of the Islamic nation the Zionist enemy, after suffering heavy casualties and leaving behind several tanks, was forced to flee the battlefield. Islam's combatants, by strengthening and consolidating the captured positions, by opening fire are already inflicting heavy casualties and losses on the forces of Baghdad's Zionist regime.

[Signed] Khatim ol-Anbiya Headquarters, joint operations center of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Headquarters Communique No 4

LD171132 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Communique No 4 of Khatim ol-Anbiya' Headquarters, joint operations center of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran and Islamic Revolution Guards Corps]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Muslim and martyr-nurturing nation, combative and heroic Iranian nation: Continuing the first phase of the victorious Val-Fajr V operations last night — which started with the sacred codemane of "Ya Zahra" in the Chenguleh area — the zealous and self-sacrificing sons of the victorious army of Islam raided the heart of enemy positions and managed to cross the Banifayn and Sorkhar Rivers and to liberate 10 heights in the region, including the (Chagha 'Askar), ('Abbas 'Azim), and No 230 heights.

The forces of Islam are also now dominating the Iraqi posts of ('Eyn 'Aqd), (Tariq ibn Ziyad), and (Rebadi); the townships of (Beksayeh) and (Al-e Yasin); and the village of (Shaykh Ahmad).

During last night's operations, so far 1,100 of the annihilating Ba'thist-Zionist Iraqi forces have been killed or wounded. Therefore, since the beginning of the first phase of the Val-Fajr V operations, more than 2,100 Saddamist mercenaries have been killed or wounded.

Another group of enemy forces had been taken prisoner by the combatants of Islam and was transferred behind the front lines today.

During these operations, a large quantity of enemy weapons and equipment was destroyed by the heavy fire of the forces of Islam and a considerable number of heavy and light vehicles, mortars, radio sets and radars, and a large number of light weapons and several large ammunition dumps were seized intact by the victors of Islam.

The powerful combatants of Islam have now taken up positions in an area 35 km from the Basra-Baghdad road and are consolidating their positions.

[Signed] Khatim ol-Anbiya' Headquarters, joint operations center of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Documents Captured

GF161750 Tehran IRNA in English 1717 GMT 16 Feb 84

[Text] Khatim ol-Anbiya' Hq., Feb. 16, IRNA — Some Iraqi military documents were seized by the Islamic forces during the Val Fajr-5 offensive today. These documents and military maps were recovered from the headquarters of the 4th Iraqi border brigade which was smashed today.

The Iraqi forces sustaining heavy defeat reorganised their shattered forces forming a tank battalion which was quashed by the fire of the Islamic forces.

Meanwhile the governor of Bakhtaran Province, west Iran, visited the liberated heights and regions in the Val Fajr-5 theatre today. He commended the Islamic combatants on their heroic battle against the Iraqi forces.

IRNA Roundup

LD162123 Tehran IRNA in English 2020 GMT 16 Feb 84

["Val-Fajr V Roundup" — IRNA headline]

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 16, IRNA — The Islamic forces of Iran launched operation Val Fajr-5 late Wednesday night against the positions of the Iraqi forces west of the region between Dehloran and Mehran.

So far the Iranian combatants have liberated tens of square kms of Iranian territory as well as the Pizouli, and Azadkhan Koshteh heights inside Iraq and the Tang-e Chenguleh mountain pass within the Iranian territory.

The enemy forces have suffered hundreds of casualties and the 4th brigade of the Iraqi Border Guards as well as 47th Artillery Battalion of the Iraqi forces have been wiped out and its headquarters destroyed.

At least 48 Iraqi soldiers have been transferred behind the warfronts so far among considerable number of Iraqi capts [as received].

One Iraqi aircraft was shot down in the first day of the offensive at 09:35 hours. The enemy has lost a considerable amount of military hardware as the Islamic forces advanced.

Operation Val Fajr-5 came days after a limited operation, Tahrir ul-Quds, in Iraq's Darband-i Khan region, northeast of Iraq. During this operation 150 sq km of Iraqi territory was captured by the Iranian combatants and 12 Iraqi villages were liberated in the region. The Iranian forces also halted traffic on the Sulaymaniyah-Baghdad highway.

On Wednesday Iranian Air Force planes heavily bombed the Ba'qubah township just north of Baghdad and attacked enemy air force bases in the Kut, Al-Amarah regions. All air force planes returned safe to their base after their missions.

On Thursday morning the combatants of Islam captured the Iraqi border post of Shahabi in the southern region of the Val-Fajr V operation theatre and heavily pounded the logistical route of Badrah-Tib and the township of Baghsari inside the Iraqi territory.

The Muslim combatant also managed to destroy four big ammunition dumps of the Iraqi enemy in the operational region of the Val-Fajr V offensive by setting it ablaze Thursday morning.

Meanwhile the Iraqi enemy launched four counterattacks in futile bids to re-take the strategically important area liberated during the last night's offensive, but were repelled and forced to retreat suffering heavy casualties and losses.

The last counterattack was mounted at 11:00 hours local time Thursday by the Iraqi forces using sixty tanks and many personnel carriers proceeding from Badrah towards Tib, but it was crushed by the Muslim forces. The Iraqis were forced to retreat leaving behind six tanks and several personnel carriers.

On Thursday afternoon the frustrated Iraqi regime had to resort to its air force and once again prove that it could not stand by its words and that its recent announcement about not bombarding the residential areas for a week was nothing but false propaganda.

At 15:28 hours local time,Thursday, two Iraqi MIG-23'sviolated the Iranian air space but were forced to flee by the prompt and heavy fire of the Iranian air defence units. This attack was followed by another two in the Val-Fajr V operational region that were again repulsed immediately.

In another development on Thursday the Iranian Air Force fighters downed an Iraqi fighter plane over the southern part of the country.

The third joint communique by the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corp (IRGC) and the Islamic Republic Army released Thursday evening put the number of Iraqi troops who have been killed or wounded since the beginning of the Val-Fajr V offensive at over one thousand while great many others have been taken captive by the Muslim combatants as of the issuance of the communique.

According to the communique the combatants of Islam are at the moment strengthening their positions in the liberated areas while inflicting yet more blows upon the Iraqi forces in the Val-Fajr V operation theatre.

'Crushing Attacks' 17 Feb

LD170849 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0817 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] Dear listeners: Please pay attention. Following the first phase of Val-Fajr V operations which are being carried out under the command at Katim ol-Anbiya' base, headquarters for the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, the fighters of Islam at 0345 continued their advance toward predetermined positions and goals.

According to the report from IRNA correspondents, the victorious Islamic fighters in this morning's operations, after 3 hours of heroic fighting which at times included hand-to-hand combat, succeeded in liberating (Chagha-'Askar) and ('Abbas 'Azim) heights.

According to these reports, the crushing attacks of the brave fighters of monotheism were so quick that various groups of enermy personnel fled toward the fighters of Islam. In these operations, a large number of enemy forces were killed, wounded, or captured. Full reports will be announced subsequently.

Hoping for the speedy victories of the fighters of Islam.

Garrisons Captured

LD171018 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1058 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] Dear listeners: According to reports from IRNA correspondents in the operational zone, the combatants of Islam, continuing the victorious Val-Fajr V operation, in addition to liberating the (Chogh 'Askar) and ('Abbas 'Azim) heights and gaining control over the Tib-Badrah communications road, have gained control over ('Ayn Habb), (Tariq ibn Ziyad), and (Ar-Rubadi) Garrisons.

Heights 'Liberated'

LD171029 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1010 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] Dear listeners: Please pay attention to a statement which we have just received from the fronts of the war between truth and falsehood:

Following this dawn's operations, which have been carried out in the continuation of the first phase of Val-Fajr V operations under the command of Khatim ol-Anbiya' base, the fighters of Islam liberated more than 40 square km of the area under enemy occupation in the Mehran area this morning. According to the IRNA report, the fighters of Islam fully occupied (Chagha 'Askar) and ('Abbas 'Azim) heights and gained full control over supply routes of the region.

Areas Controlled

LD171037 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1016 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Text] Dear listeners, according to an IRNA correspondent's report from the operational sector, as a continuation of the lightning Val-Fajr V operations, Islam's blasphemy-destroying combatants, apart from liberating several heights and communication highways and controlling or liberating several posts, now control the townships of (Bagsayah) and (Al-Yasin) and the hamlet of (Shaykh Ahmad).

Counterattack Repulsed

LD171102 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1041 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Text] At 1115 today, Islam's combatants succeeded in repulsing a counterattack by enemy forces supported by three gunship helicopters. During these operations, three enemy tanks and several of their heavy vehicles were destroyed and the enemy forces, who suffered casualties, were forced to retreat.

Captured Iraqi Soldiers Interviewed

LD171021 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0940 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Text] Dear Listeners: Please pay attention to a dispatch we have received in connection with the capture of a number of Saddamist servicemen:

Following the first phase of the Val-Fajr V operations, at dawn today, another group of Saddamist forces was captured by Islam's troops. An IRNA correspondent's dispatch from the forward lines of the battlefronts notes that among the prisoners could be seen a number of Iraqi officers.

(Qasim 'Isa Ja'far an-Nuri), a 32-year-old Iraqi warrant officer from the 4th Brigade of the Iraqi Border Guards and a citizen of Baghdad, told an IRNA correspondent: We were captured last night, 2 hours after the start of the operations by Islam's combatants. He attributed the cause of his and his fellow combatants' capture to the very rapid execution of operations by Islam's troops.

(Murid Mas'ab), from the 4th Brigade of the Iraqi Border Guards, who was captured by Islam's combatants at 0600 today in Ash-Shihabi, said: I, together with more than 100 of my comrades-in-arms, were surprised and captured or killed by Islam's forces. Another sergeant of the 4th Brigade of the Iraqi Border Guards, from [name indistinct], near the city of Ba'qubah, said that because of the arrest of his wife and children by Iraqi security forces he was forced to go to the front. He added: Now that I am a prisoner I feel I am reborn, and I feel great. In conclusion, in a message to his comrades-in-arms, he called on them not to be duped by the false propaganda of the regime ruling Iraq and to surrender to Islam's combatants whose treatment is entirely Islamic.

Iraqi Soldiers Urged To Stop Fighting

GF171029 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0944 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] To all men of the Iraqi Army, officers, soldiers, and privates, to all those who have been deceived by the infidel Saddam and led to the war of ignorance, the Al-Qadisiyah of Reagan and Begin, free and honorable citizens of Iraq: Why are you killing yourselves and why do you allow your sons and husbands to run after the charity of the infidel Ba'thists? Why do you direct your weapons at your Muslim brothers who want to save you and liberate you from slavery to Saddam and his masters in Washington and Tel Aviv? Is it in order to maintain the At-Tikriti dynasty in power? Is it so that they can conspire against you, slaughter your sons, take over your women? Is it so that they can drink a toast over your dead bodies?

Proud and zealous men, where are the sons of Islam and the Koran? Where are the sons of Muhammad and Husayn? Today you must point your weapons toward the Saddamist fifth column, the political guidance officers and the security officials who

infiltrate your ranks — the mercenaries who hit you in the back with their weapons.

Proud soldiers of Iraq, champion Islam, the Koran and the ulema slaughtered by the infidel Saddam. Join our camp, the camp of Muslims. Save yourselves, and do not be like those "who forgot God so He made them forget themselves. Die only as Muslims." [Koranic verses] The dawn of victory is coming soon.

Iraqi Aircraft Repelled Over Khorramabad, Mehran

LD161529 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1512 GMT 16 Feb 84

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] Dear listeners: Please pay attention. According to a report I just received, attempts by the Zionist enemy's aircraft to bomb the residential parts of Khorramabad were smashed by the antiaircraft defense of the Islamic fighters. This morning, too, attempts by enemy aircraft to bomb the residential parts of Mehran and its suburbs were neutralized as a result of the vigilant antiaircraft defense of the Islamic fighters. Enemy aircraft were forced to flee.

Iraqi Air Attacks Against Cities Noted

LD161753 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 16 Feb 84

[Text] As yesterday, the heroic city of Abadan continued to be the target of Iraq's air attacks and heavy artillery fire. The shelling of the cities of Khorramshahr and Abadan in the past 48 hours resulted in the martyrdom of a number of our Muslim, zealous,and self-sacrificing compatriots and the injury of yet another number.

The aircraft of the Zionist enemy also today violated the airspace of our country in order to bomb the residential areas of Mehran and the nearby villages; but they were forced to flee by the air defense fire of the combatants of Islam.

The air attacks of the Zionist enemy carried out yesterday and today against the residential areas of Abadan, Khorramshahr, Gilan-e Gharb, and Mehran reveal the nature of the move and propaganda of the Zionist enemy, who at the same time as being incapable of confronting the combatants of Islam on the battle front, as in the past, hits residential areas of cities, whereas he has announced he would refrain from attacking residential areas.

Khuzestan Governor General Comments

LD171048 Tehran IRNA in English 1020 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Text] Ahvaz feb, 17 IRNA — The governor general of Khuzestan Province, Mr. Forouzandeh today denied Iraqi claims of having stopped its artillery shelling of the two cities of Abadan and Khorramshahr in the province. He told IRNA that the two cities have been under constant enemy shelling despite claims by the Baghdad regime that it has delayed its attacks upon civilian areas for one week.

During the past four days, he said, 30 people had been martyred and 164 others wounded in Iraqi shelling of the two cities. Only within the past 24 hours, added the governor, the Iraqi artillery upon Abadan and Khorramshahr had resulted in destruction of four houses and six shops.

During the current week, according to the governor of Khuzestan only in Abadan, some 248 housing units, 83 shops, one hospital, two schools, one children's park, and many other city installations had been demolished by the enemy artillery fire. There have been 53 instances of arson throughout the city as well, he said.

UN Delegation To Inspect Iraqi 'Crimes'

LD161718 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 16 Feb 84

[Text] In connection with the news reported by world news agencies on the dispatch of a UN secretary general's special envoy to Iran and Iraq to inspect the bombed residential areas and to ascertain the two countries' political positions, a Foreign Ministry spokesman has stated: As it has announced to the United Nations, the Islamic Republic of Iran can host a delegation to inspect the dimensions of the crimes committed by the Iraqi regime and its attacks against civilian areas and murder of innocent people and to study and investigate the continual use of chemical weapons by the Iraqi regime against the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Majlis Briefed on 'Firing' of Hajj Official

GF161720 Tehran IRNA in English 1655 GMT 16 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Tehran, Feb. 16, IRNA — Vice-speaker of the Majlis, Hojjat ol-Eslam Musavi-Kho'ini expressed hope in the open session of the Majlis today that operation Val Fajr-5 would lead to important victories.

We hope God...would make the brave children of Islam triumphant and that soon this operation would lead to great victories that would end the ominous presence of Saddam and Saddamites in the region, he said.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Kho'ini took over the Majlis procedings today following a brief stay by Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

In the Majlis today the government requested recalling of 13 bills nearly all of which were concerning minor changes in existing laws.

Also the Majlis voted against a bill for the employment of 1,000 regular non-judicial personnel for the judicial department.

In other proceedings the Majlis heard the explanations of the Islamic Guidance Minister Mohammad Khatami concerning the firing of the former head of the hajj and pilgrimage organisation. He said the former hajj official was self-willed had tried to impose his own personal view in the organisation.

A number of deputies who had requested the explanation forwarded their queries to the questions committee of the Majlis for further clarification.

Official Comments on Upcoming General Amnesty
GF111730 Tehran IRNA in English 1657 GMT 16 Feb 84

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 16, IRNA — Hojjat ol-Eslam Moqtada'i, a member of and the spokesman of the high judicial council of the Islamic Republic of Iran, outlined the activities of the council over the past week in an interview here today.

Among other things Moqtada'i referred to the issue of pardoning prisoners throughout the country adding that several lists including names of inmates kept in Tehran as well as in other cities of the country had been presented to Imam Khomeyni the leader of the Islamic revolution that were approved of by the imam and sent back to the appropriate centres throughout Iran.

He said that circulars had been prepared for general amnesty of prisoners on the top of the list mentioned above and presented to Imam Khomeyni for his approval. These circulars, he added, would be submitted to the official concerned after Imam Khomeyni's approval, to make arrangement for the release of some of the inmates.

Operations Succeed in Routing Esfahan 'Gang'
GF161956 Esfahan Domestic Service in Persian 1530 GMT 16 Feb 84

[Text] Asadollah Lajvardi and Reza Saifollahi, respectively the chief Islamic prosecutor and the commander of the revolution guards of Sector 2 of the country, in a radio and (?television) press conference, announced that during recent coordinated operations carried out by the Revolution Guard Corps of Sector 2 and the office of the chief prosecutor, Allahqoli, a miscreant in the tribal areas, and a number of his gang members were killed or captured.

According to the Central News Unit, Asadollah Lajvardi, the chief Islamic prosecutor, said that our four-phase operations were successful. The last phase was carried out in the mountains around Esfahan. The infiltration method was used against the gang which was a group of local (?khans) in league with a group of miscreants. They had been engaged in terrorizing hezbollahis in the region of Esfahan and (Shamirun). As a result of the operation, the whole gang was routed and two of its members were captured.

The chief prosecutor said the National Resistance Council had close ties with Allahqoli Jahangiri and his gang. (Bahmadollah), a close aide to Allahqoli Jahangiri and the one who had contacts with counterrevolutionaries outside the country, was now in the hands of the chief prosecutor's office. He is at present cooperating with our personnel, Asadollah Lajvavadi said.

Asadollah Lajvardi added: We in coordination with the revolution guards in Esfahan were able to strike an effective blow against the misceants and rid the region of their presence with a minimal of losses.

Saifollahi said with regard to the operations that Allahqoli Jahangiri is a criminal whose bloodthirsty ways are well known. He also had close links with the defunct SAVAK organization of the shah and with his gang killed a number of hezbollahis and clergymen in Nurabad, Mamatin, and (Shamirun).

Saifollahi also said that Allahqoli Jahangiri with his gang had created mistrust among the tribes and caused trouble by employing terrorist methods. However, the operations carried out by of (?60) guards on the night of 14 February were successful. They began at (0230) and lasted for 15 hours. With the help of God, we broke this gang who were in fact more dangerous than the hypocrites. The operation succeeded in routing their (?20)-man gang, killing 7 of them, and capturing 2 others.

The commander of the revolution guards of Sector 2 said that in these operations two revolution guards, (Mostafa Mahateri) and Mohammad Reza 'Abbasi, were killed.

He said from this gang, made up of hypocrites and members of the National Resistance Council, a quantity of arms, Kalashnikov rifles, equipment, and documents were captured by the brave Islamic fighters and it seems that this gang had extensive plans for the region.